

**RFP# 720C-04222-10R      Locum Tenens Services**

**Questions and Answers Sheet #2**

1. Are current locum tenens physicians providing services under the existing contracts prohibited by their employment agreements or contracts from working with new awardees if the current contractor(s) does/do not receive awards?

ANSWER:      The Commonwealth of Virginia is not a party to the private contracts between locum tenens companies and physicians.

2. Paragraph 2.3. refers to on-call coverage, weekend and holiday coverage. There is no line for such charges. What is the State's intent on pricing these types of hourly rates?

ANSWER:      Offerors should submit their pricing schedule as part of the proposal response.

3. Though not referred to in the solicitation, are the physicians ever required to be able to be reached by telephone or pager outside of the facility, and if so, will the State add a line for pager charges?

ANSWER:      If a pager is required, the facility will provide the physician with a pager on the facility's paging system. There is no charge for this.

4. Paragraph 2.6: The contractor is required to reimburse the Purchasing Agent for all out-of-pocket expenses associated with the credentialing and acceptance/scheduling. What is the approximate or average cost which the contractor would be expected to reimburse?

ANSWER:      The types of expenses are listed on question and answer sheet #1 Answer to question #2, The exact total cost is not available at this time and will be available at the negotiation stage of this procurement. Cost should be between \$50.00 and \$75.00.

5. Paragraph 2.9: The physician is required to attend an orientation. Are orientations considered billable hours?

Answer:      Yes.

6. Does the Commonwealth recognize that some locum tenens staffing firms provide services by using physicians who are independent contractors and therefore rules and benefits normally required of an employer do not apply?

ANSWER: If a Offeror would like to have the physicians reconized as independant contractors, then the Offeror should include that in their proposal response. If the Offeror is so chosen on the short list for negotiations, then that can be discussed in the negotiations.

7. For staffing companies who use independent physician contractors and whose insurance does not cover them sense they are not employees, are the insurance requirements of paragraph 8.15.1 through 8.15.4 applicable since they will not have employees working onsite (independent physicians do not normally carry such insurance with such limits)?

ANSWER: The referenced insurance requirements are for the contractor.The intent is to award contracts with locum tenens companies and not independant physician contractors.

8. Are the insurance requirements in paragraphs 8.15.1 and 8.15.2 required of independent physician contractors who have no employees?

ANSWER: The referenced insurance requirements are for the contractor.The intent is to award contracts with locum tenens companies and not independant physician contractors.

9. Are independent physician subcontractors required to provide their own insurance described in paragraphs 8.15.3. and 8.15.4.?

ANSWER: The referenced insurance requirements are for the contractor.The intent is to award contracts with locum tenens companies and not independant physician contractors. Under the contract if a physician uses a personal vehiciale to drive on and off the State facility ten the physician would be required to be covered under someone's policy.

10. Medical malpractice insurance does not seem to be addressed in the solicitation. Does the state provide this or is the contractor expected to provide this. (Commercial General Liability mentioned in paragraph 8.15.3. does not typically cover malpractice, and Malpractice Insurance typically does not cover the items mentioned in 8.15.3.)

ANSWER: Malpractice insurance is part of Health Care Practitioner insurance required by §8.01-581.15 of the Code of Virginia, the requirements are as follows:

\$2,000,000 per occurrence, \$3,000,000 aggregate

The physician is required by law to have this coverage. Who provides this coverage is between the Contractor and the physician.

11. For staffing firms that identify in their proposal that all physicians are independent contractors, is award of a contract to the company considered approval to use subcontracts with such individuals as required by paragraph 9.6.?

ANSWER: See answer to question #11 on Question and Answer Sheet #1.